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Attorney Docket No. <u>012 [2756.3012.001]</u>

SEP 1 8 2006 **

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

blicant:

William M. Andre

Serial No.

10/765,287

Filed:

January 27, 2004

For:

Workpiece Holder

Group Art Unit:

3722

Examiner:

Ali F. Abdelwahed

In reply to:

Examiner's Letter of June 30, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

September 14, 2006.

Shirley A Langley

Mail Stop AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111

This responds to a non-final Office Action, which was mailed June 30, 2006 and objected to minor informalities in the claims, indicated that claims 3-6, 8, 13-16, and 18 would be allowable if placed in independent form, and rejected the remaining claims for asserted lack of novelty in view of cited prior art. Please amend this application as follows and consider the remarks that follow. Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 2, amendments to the Claims begin on page 3, and Remarks begin on page 10765287

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